

leaves or the membranes connecting them appear always to show at least some vestiges of ciliation, while in *S. longipes* the leaves are neither so long nor relatively so narrow as they are in *S. glauca*. Since the receipt of the specimens from Judge Churchill, *S. glauca* from the same locality has been sent to the Gray Herbarium by Mr. John Murdock, Jr.—B. L. ROBINSON.

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SOME PLANTS NEW TO THE FLORA OF MAINE.—In company with a fellow botanist, Mr. F. M. Billings, I went on an exploring trip September 7th, 1903, which proved a veritable red letter day in the botanical line for us both, as in addition to securing many plants which we knew to occur in the vicinity, though we had previously never personally collected them, we were fortunate enough to secure a few which could not be identified by a most rigorous search of the botanical literature at our command. Our usual resort in such cases is Mr. M. L. Fernald of the Gray Herbarium, and to him the puzzling specimens were sent for identification. A species of which Mr. Billings had secured a single specimen the year previous, growing in some ballast left by an Italian vessel, was found quite abundant in the same locality this season, and on the day in question we secured good specimens. Mr. Fernald pronounced this plant to be *Mercurialis annua* L. and reported that to his knowledge it had never before been recorded from Maine. On the side of a steep railroad embankment Mr. Billings discovered a low spreading prostrate plant which was then almost entirely out of bloom. It was quite abundant and seemed to have been established there for at least one season previously. Mr. Fernald pronounces this plant to be *Anchusa arvalis* Reichenbach, and he adds that it is apparently not recorded in America. On September 30th, Mr. Billings brought me specimens of a plant which Mr. Fernald pronounces to be *Galinsoga parviflora* var. *hispida* DC. These were growing in a waste spot where rubbish and other miscellaneous material was being constantly dumped and might easily have been introduced with material used in packing crockery ware, as such material consisting of straw and similar matter is dumped in this locality. September 30 and October 4th I collected specimens of a Valerian growing in waste places where it might easily have been introduced with refuse from gardens. Mr. Fernald pro-

nounces the species to be *Valerianella olitoria* Poll. This and allied species are sometimes cultivated under the name of "Corn Salad" in this vicinity.—ORA W. KNIGHT, Bangor, Maine.

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NOTE ON EQUISETUM PRATENSE.—*Equisetum pratense*, Ehrh., appears to be very rare in the United States, although more common in Canada and Alaska. It has been reported from New England several times, but erroneously so far as my observations have gone. While attending the meetings of the Josselyn Society of Maine on July 2nd, I explored the south bank of "Old Point," Norridgewock. It is quite steep, perhaps 35 feet high, and made up of sand. Here I noticed a peculiar Equisetum and to my delight found it to be the much-wanted *E. pratense*. It grew down the south face of the bluff and on top among bushes and trees. Later in the day I found it, but sparingly, in a cedar swamp at Madison, which fact shows that its habitat is varied, and that it is presumably common in northern New England. It has been overlooked for the reason that in appearance it is half-way between *E. arvense* and *E. silvaticum*, so that casual observers are likely to take it for one or the other of these species. From the first it may be told, when growing in the sun, by the fact that the top is a little oblique as in *E. silvaticum* while the upper branches are deflexed and then horizontal. In shade it is more pyramidal than *E. arvense*, and the branches are finer. It can be told at once on examination of the stem, even without a lens, as *E. arvense* is smooth, while *E. pratense* is covered by tall, flattish spinules that often give it a gray tinge. It can also be easily separated from *E. silvaticum* by its simple branches, those of the latter species being always compound. *E. pratense* is, in general, a more nearly erect species, the stem usually being quite perpendicular, the oblique appearance where present being caused by the deflexed branches.—A. A. EATON, North Easton, Mass.

*Vol. 6, no. 64, including pages 65 to 80 and plates 52 and 53, was issued 6 April, 1904.*